

using said sequence number to determine if said packet is in proper order for processing by said receiver.

4. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein said using comprises:

comparing said sequence number with a sequence count of said receiver;

determining, when said comparing indicates an inequality, whether said sequence number is a predetermined amount more than said sequence count; and

indicating an error when said sequence number is not said predetermined amount more than said sequence count.

5. (New) A method of controlling the flow of information across links between senders and receivers, said method comprising:

including in a packet a continue indicator usable in determining whether another packet is to follow said packet;

sending said packet from a sender to a receiver across a link; and

using said continue indicator to determine if said another packet is to follow.

6. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein an end of a buffer area is specified when said continue indicator is off.

7. (New) The method of claim 6, further comprising setting an error indication, when another packet is received for said buffer area and said continue indicator is off.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 were originally presented in the parent application, but were canceled in a Preliminary Amendment dated December 8, 1998 and claims 3-23 added. The Office Action dated May 8, 2001 in the parent application restricted the claims under 35 U.S.C. §121, between Group I including claims 3-18, and Group II including claims 19-23. In response, Applicants canceled claims 19-23 and elected the Group I claims (i.e., 3-18) for examination in the parent application. Applicants are herein pursuing claims 19-23, now re-

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